**Notice and Note Signposts**

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| **Contrasts and Contradictions**  When a character does something that contrasts with what you’d expect or contradicts his earlier acts or statements, STOP and ask yourself, “Why is the character doing that?” |
| **Aha Moment**  When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures something out, STOP and ask yourself, “How might this change things?” |
| **Tough Questions**  When a character asks herself a very difficult question, STOP and ask yourself, “What does this question make me wonder about?” |
| **Words of the Wiser**  When a character (probably older and wiser) takes the main character aside and offers serious advice, STOP and ask yourself, “What’s the life lesson and how will it affect the character?” |
| **Again and Again**  When you notice a word, phrase, or situation mentioned over and over, STOP and ask yourself, “Why does this keep happening again and again?” |
| **Memory Moment**  When an author interrupts the action to tell you about a memory, STOP and ask yourself, “Why might this memory be important?” |